

NEW FOREST
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

on

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Condition

of the

New Forest Rural District

for the Year 1943

Submitted to the Rural District Council

by

GEORGE HABGOOD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health to the New Forest Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the New Forest Rural District for the year ending December 31st, 1943.

As requested by the Ministry of Health, this report again deals briefly with Public Health matters arising during the year.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Birth :	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate	706	383	323	Birth rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	35	18	17	of the estimated
				resident population 19.12
Stillbirths	23	11	12	Rate per 1,000 total
				(live and still) births 30.26
Deaths	412	207	205	Death rate per 1,000
				of the estimated
				resident population 10.63
Birth rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	16.5
Death rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	12.1
Deaths from Puerperal causes :				
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	0
Other Puerperal diseases	...	...	...	0
				0
				Death Rate
Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—				
All infants per 1,000 live biths	...	...	...	26.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	25.49
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitmate births	...	...	...	59.14
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	69
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	2

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Continue as in previous years, for all purposes, at the County Council Laboratories.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Ante-natal Clinics have been provided by the County Council at Totton and Lyndhurst.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at :—

Boldre.	Hythe.
Bramshaw.	Lyndhurst.
Brockenhurst.	Marchwood.
Copythorne.	Minstead.
Dibden Purlieu.	Sway.
East Boldre.	Totton.
Fawley.	

Consultations only at these centres. They are supported by voluntary contributions, with help from the County Council.

Day Nurseries—	} These services are under the control of the County Council.
School Clinics—	
Orthopaedic—	
Artificial Light—	

Tuberculosis Dispensaries :—Totton, 77, Rumbridge Street, provided by the County Council.

Venereal Clinic :—Outside the District in Southampton, provided by the County Council.

Scabies Clinics :—Totton and Hythe. Patients residing on the boundary near Lymington are treated by the Borough of Lymington. An arrangement has been made with the Borough Council.

THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable cases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year :—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	390	—	—
Whooping Cough	144	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	6	—
Pneumonia	16	—	19
Erysipelas	6	—	—
Scarlet Fever	23	19	—
Diphtheria	7	7	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Dysentery	3	3	—
Totals	597	37	20

Of the seven cases of diphtheria notified, one was an adult. None had received immunising treatment. All cases recovered.

The scarlet fever cases all recovered.

Dysentery cases were notified from the Tatchbury Mount Colony.

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Langley House, Totton—Infectious Diseases—21 beds.

Setley House, Brockenhurst—Minor Infectious Diseases—24 beds.

Bench View, Lyndhurst—Sick Bay. Sleeping accommodation for 40 children.

Considerable use has been made of all premises.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1943 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5— ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
15— ...	8	2	1	1	—	2	1	1
25— ...	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
35— ...	5	3	—	1	3	—	—	—
45— ...	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
55— ...	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards ...	3	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Totals ...	26	11	4	3	7	4	1	1

ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Protective treatment shows very satisfactory progress has been achieved over last year.

During the year the following children were known to have received full protective treatment.

	1 to 5 years	5 to 15 years	Total
Number Immunised during 1943	791	583	1374
Percentages of children Immunised during 1943	53%	75%	64%

MISCELLANEOUS WORK.

Rooms fumigated	...	...	...	92
Premises disinfested	...	...	...	9
Interviews with owners, etc.	...	...	...	96

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Overflowing cesspools emptied	...	...	32
Defective water closets repaired	...	...	4
Defective rain water pipes repaired	...	...	2
Choked drains cleaned	...	...	15
Defective drains repaired	...	...	3
Defective drains taken up and new systems laid down	...	...	3
Defective cesspools and drainage systems, connected to main sewer	...	...	20
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	7
Serious dampness abated	...	...	2
Defective brickwork repaired	...	...	1
Defective ceilings repaired	...	...	5
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	6
Defective floors taken up and new floors laid down	...	...	9
Dirty houses cleansed	...	...	3

FACTORIES. INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspection.	Written Notices.	Occ'p'rs. Prosctd.
Factories with mechanical power	70	—	Nil.
Factories without mechanical power	1	—	Nil.
Total	71	—	Nil.

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Defects entailing Prosecution.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	4	4	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences...	—	—	1	—
Total	5	5	1	—

MILK : DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Number of Registered Cowkeepers	...	...	318
Retailers who are not producers	...	...	13
Number of "Tuberculin Tested" producers	...	...	17
Number of "Accredited" producers	...	...	29

INSPECTIONS MADE.

Number.	Defects Found.		Remedied	Defects Outstanding.
	From 1942	1943		
282	—	11	11	—

SAMPLES.

Four milk samples taken, all of which were satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Number of Inspections at Food Shops	...	758
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FOOD INSPECTED.

143 Bovines.	1,678 tins Meat.
165 Calves.	185 tins Fish.
1,374 Sheep.	262 tins Fruit.
40 Pigs.	1,027 tins Vegetables.
	734 tins Milk.

40-lbs. cheese, 24-lbs. tea, 28-lbs. shredded suet, 28-lbs. dried egg, 56-lbs. rolled oats, 266-lbs. bacon, 112-lbs. pearl barley, 92-lbs. margarine, 56-lbs. cake, 40-lbs. butter, 26-lbs. onions, 278 meat pies, 12 packets cereals, 72 oranges, 96 eggs, 14 tins biscuits.

FOOD CONDEMNED.

216-lbs. beef	...	Dropsy and emaciation.
123-lbs. beef	...	Bone taint.
125-lbs. beef	...	Tuberculosis.
3½-lbs. bovine kidney	...	Cysts.
17-lbs. beef	...	Decomposition.
89-lbs. imported pork loins	...	Decomposition.
4 sets sheeps' lungs	...	Strongylosis.
1 set pig's lungs	...	Pneumonia.
328 tins meat	...	Decomposition.
58 tins fish	...	Decomposition.
170 tins fruit	...	Decomposition.
94 tins vegetables	...	Decomposition.
99 tins milk	...	Decomposition.

36-lbs. cheese, 9½-lbs. butter, 26-lbs. onions, 229-lbs. bacon, 28-lbs. shredded suet, 14-lbs. dried egg, 18 eggs, 36 oranges, 278 meat pies—Decomposition.

12-lbs. tea	...	Mould.
56-lbs. rolled oats	...	Fouled by rats.
112-lbs. pearl barley		Damaged by sulphuric acid.

EMPTYING OF CESSPITS.

A scheme for the emptying of cesspits of Council houses was commenced in December with the Council's own cesspit Emptier under the control of the Public Health Department. Owing to the shortage of labour it is only possible to carry out this work part time utilising available staff. The scheme is working satisfactorily in the light of existing circumstances.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT.

Consequent upon the Infestation Order, 1943, Mr. H. W. Plowman was appointed Rodent Officer and in this capacity made a survey of the district to investigate the extent of rat infestation. The survey brought to light a number of major infestations and numerous minor infestations in all parts of the district.

The necessary staff has been acquired and active steps are being taken to deal with rodent infestation as directed by the Ministry of Food.

HOUSING.

Work under the Housing Acts has been carried out so far as prevailing circumstances permit. Housing conditions are far from satisfactory and are deteriorating with the prolongation of the war consequent upon the shortage of labour and materials. Cases of overcrowding are being dealt with whenever practicable.

A very considerable amount of work will have to be done in regard to housing generally in the post-war period.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This work is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Public Health Department.

The collection of refuse and salvage on alternate weeks in the parishes of Eling, Dibden, Fawley and Lyndhurst is working satisfactory. Difficulties have been experienced in maintaining vehicles due to shortage of spare parts and in obtaining the necessary labour.

The schedule however, has been maintained with some difficulty arising from the foregoing and the added work placed upon the men in the collection of salvage.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. HABGOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

